

TRUE NORTHERNER.

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It was according to the eternal fitness of things that the banner republican county of the state should also be the banner prohibition county.

A COUNTY that cast as strong a republican and as strong a prohibition vote as did Van Buren county, is a pretty good county to live in and must be peopled by a pretty intelligent and moral class of citizens.

By his veto of the law providing for the publication of the proceedings of the board of supervisors in the newspapers, Governor Lucas has subjected himself to a storm of criticism from all parts of the state. The bill ought to become a law in spite of the veto.

At Union City, Tennessee, a few days since, a negro prisoner was taken from the officers by a mob, while his examination was in progress, and hanged to a beam in the court room. Verdict of the coroner's jury, "Came to his death at the hands of parties unknown." Evidently, it will be a good while yet before our southern brethren become thoroughly civilized.

Gov. HILL of New York, has identified himself with the liquor men of his state by vetoing the high license bill passed by the legislature of that state. He thought the bill was aimed at some of his democratic constituents, at least he so expressed himself in his veto message. Possibly he has also identified himself with the third party prohibitionists, as they joined with the liquor men in their opposition to the bill.

ALDERMAN AMOS, a member of the Wayne county canvassing board, said that he thought the prohibitionists had been treated with too much courtesy; that the filing of the protest by an insignificant handful of cranks, as he termed them, was in itself an act of discourtesy; that these people sought to dictate what a man should eat and drink, and that he thought the people would be justified in stuffing ballot-boxes or in using clubs to prevent the carrying out of any such ideas. It is nonsense to expect a free ballot and a fair count of votes with the election machinery of Detroit in the hands and under the control of such men as this.

THIRTY thousand is about the plurality by which the republican state ticket was elected on the 4th inst. This ought to be and is very satisfactory and indicates that republicanism did not suffer, as its enemies hoped and predicted, by fulfilling its pledge of submission. The most brilliant republican victories have been won when some great political and moral principle was at issue. The party need have no fear for the result whenever it espouses the cause of right. Let it take advanced ground on the temperance question—the great question of the hour—and, while it may lose some votes thereby, its gains will exceed its losses.

THE bill "to secure to women citizens who are otherwise qualified, the right to vote at town, city and other municipal elections" was considered by the house on Tuesday of last week. After discussion, the bill was killed by striking out all after the enacting clause, the vote standing fifty in favor of such action and thirty-three against. Mr. SIMPSON, our representative, recorded himself among the fifty opponents of the measure. We desire to say to the gentlemen who voted that they are standing in the path of the "car of progress," which will continue to roll on in spite of their opposition. We predict that some of those fifty men who voted against conferring this limited suffrage on the women of Michigan, will live long enough to see them enjoy the right to vote as broad as their own. That the world moves, is as true in the present age as it was in the days of GALILEO.

Two causes operated to defeat the prohibitory amendment at the recent election. Had either one of these causes been absent, there can be no doubt that it would have carried in spite of the efforts of its opponents, in spite of the vast sum of money that was expended to secure its defeat and in spite of all the frauds that may have been perpetrated by dishonest election boards. The first of these causes was the folly of the third party prohibitionists in putting a state ticket into the field, followed up in many places by the nomination of local tickets. We do not pretend to say that any man was justified in voting against the measure because of the course of the prohibition party; on the contrary, we say now as before election that, in our judgment, its course ought not to have influenced anybody to oppose the measure; but, nevertheless, there is no gainsaying the fact that it did turn away a good many voters who would otherwise have supported it; more than enough to have overcome the small majority by which it was defeated. The other cause was the unfortunate weather that prevailed on election day. Had the weather been as pleasant as it was a day or two before or a few days after, there is little doubt that the amendment would have been ratified. An inspection of the returns verifies what was understood before, that the principal opposition to the measure was in the cities and its main support in the rural districts. The city vote, being near the polls, could be cast as well during a storm as on a pleasant day, while a large proportion of the rural vote, being at a distance from the polls, did not and could not come out in the midst of a howling blizzard as fully as it would otherwise have done. This last cause was something that could not be helped, but the first one could have been and should never have been allowed to exist, and those who are responsible for it should be made to share the responsibility of the defeat.

A MAJORITY of 2,989 for circuit judge is large enough for all practical purposes, and that is what the people of the 9th judicial circuit gave Judge BUCK. 879 in Kalamazoo county and 2,060 in Van Buren. A long personal acquaintance with the newly elected judge convinces us that the people have made no mistake in bestowing this honor. He is eminently qualified to perform the duties of the office to which he has been so triumphantly elected, and is a genial, christian gentleman.

SINCE the defeat of the prohibitory amendment, the temperance sentiment of the state seems to be crystallizing in favor of a county local option law, with increased taxation and restrictions in such counties as do not choose to adopt prohibition. It appears as though that was the most available and practicable method of dealing with the drink evil under the circumstances. Several such measures are pending before the legislature, and there is a strong probability that some such law will be enacted. The legislature will not satisfy the people of the state unless it makes some radical changes in the liquor laws, looking in the direction of the suppression and more stringent regulation of the traffic.

THE railroads seem determined to put a forced and strained construction on the inter-state commerce law, so as to compel the "dear people" to pay more money into their coffers than they did under the old system. A bill is pending before the legislature of Michigan to reduce the rate of fare to two cents per mile. By all means let it become a law, especially as far as the great lines are concerned. We do not believe it would be just to the short roads to include them in the bill, as three cents is probably as low a rate as they can afford; but two cents is ample on the long lines. Let their managers be taught that the people have some rights that they are bound to respect, a lesson that they are exceedingly slow to learn, a principle upon which they will not act unless compelled by the strong arm of the law.

Partisan Prevarication.
During the campaign just closed, such portion of the Michigan press as supported the proposed prohibitory amendment took particular pains to keep constantly before the people the fact—and it certainly was a fact—that it was purely a non-partisan measure and that neither republicans, democrats nor greenbackers were bound by partisan ties to support or oppose the measure. Such advice was correct and such was the view that the people generally took of the matter, and it was largely owing to its non-partisanship that the amendment received such a generous support. It is true that the republican party had, in its platform, pledged itself to submit the proposition to a vote of the people, and that pledge, like all other pledges of the party, was nobly redeemed; but neither of the great parties of the state had ever pledged itself to the doctrine of prohibition. Such being the case, republicans were under no greater obligations to vote for the amendment because they were republicans, than were democrats because they were democrats.

THE NORTHERNER had no intention of instituting a comparison between the prohibition vote of republican localities and democratic localities, and would not have done so had not its contemporary, the *Free Press and Courier*, entered upon a course of partisan prevarication of which it ought to be heartily ashamed. That journal did excellent work for the amendment, and the NORTHERNER would not detract an iota from the credit to which it is entitled for so doing, but its course since the election in charging the defeat of the measure to the republican party is most contemptible. We quote the following extracts:

"Latest returns indicate that the republican state ticket is elected by at least 10,000 majority. Still, the amendment is lost. Whatever credit was accorded the republican legislature for submitting the proposition to a vote of the people is largely overbalanced by the defeat the measure has received at their hands."

"To the treachery of the republican party is the defeat of the amendment solely attributable, and it is this fact which is going to weaken and demoralize that party."

"The republican party, the 'only friend of the temperance cause,' and 'the only channel through which correct temperance legislation can be obtained,' has shown its loyalty (?) to the cause by defeating with their ballots the prohibitory amendment. Had they voted as they talked during the campaign last fall, the amendment would have been carried by an overwhelming majority. How much longer will the temperance people of Michigan cling to and help this party of broken promises and unkept pledges?"

A very casual inspection of the election returns of different counties of the state will be sufficient to convince any unprejudiced person that there is no truth in the allegation that the republican party defeated the amendment. It is true that in a few instances localities that gave a republican plurality for the state ticket gave a majority against the amendment, but such instances were the exception and not the rule. Take our own county for instance, which lays claim to being the banner republican county of Michigan, and what do we find? Just what we might reasonably expect and just what was predicted before election, the largest prohibition majority of any county in the state. Take Hillsdale county and how was it there? It is one of the staunch old republican counties and rolled up an immense plurality for the republican ticket and, as a matter of course, it gave a large majority for prohibition, second only to Van Buren, although the Hillsdale Democrat—democratic—unlike our contemporary, the *Courier*, actively and vigorously opposed the amendment all through the campaign.

How was it in Antrim, Allegan, Barry,

Branch, Calhoun, Cass, Grand Traverse, Gratiot, Ionia, Isabella, Kalamazoo, Lake, Mason, Mecosta, Midland, Montcalm, Newaygo, Osceola, Otsego, St. Joseph, Tuscola and Wexford, all counties that gave strong republican pluralities? Every one of them gave correspondingly strong prohibition majorities. And what is true of those counties is true of many others, indeed with nearly all the republican counties of the state. There were but three or four instances in the state where counties that gave a clear republican majority voted against the amendment.

How was the fact in reference to democratic counties? First there was the county of Wayne, the great democratic stronghold of the state, which alone gave over 22,000 majority against it, if the democratic count of the ballots is to be relied upon, which is more than doubtful. Without the adverse vote of this great breeding place of democrats, the amendment would have been adopted by a majority away up in the thousands. What about Bay county, another democratic stronghold? Over 2,500 against the amendment. Macomb, Monroe and Washtenaw, all bourbon counties? Every one of them gave big majorities against the amendment. Go to Saginaw. Strongly democratic and rolling up nearly 6,000 majority in favor of whiskey. What was the result in Alpena and Cheboygan? Both democratic and both voting against the amendment. In fact, so far as the official returns have been received at this writing, the only county in the state that gave a democratic plurality for the state ticket and a prohibition majority was Chippewa, and the entire county cast only about a thousand votes, giving GAVIN 110 plurality and the amendment 116 majority.

In view of these figures, it is the rankest kind of partisan prevarication to lay the blame for the defeat of the amendment at the door of the republican party. The official canvass shows that the big prohibition majorities came from strong republican counties and that it was the strongholds of the bourbon democracy that voted for the whiskey traffic. "By their fruits ye shall know them."

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Mrs. D. C. Pickett, Columbus, Wis., says: "It is a little over a year ago since I was so badly afflicted. The disease was in every nerve and muscle of my body; I was completely prostrated and helpless for four weeks; I could not bear to be touched, as even the weight of a finger would cause the greatest pain, and I was in constant dread of its getting into the heart, in fact it bordered very close to it, and the doctor had very grave doubts as to my getting well. I had taken many different kinds of medicines, but was recommended to try Athlophoros, was positive it would help me. Oh, how sick it made me, and had it not been for the persistent efforts of my husband I don't think I should have continued taking it; but he insisted so strongly that I kept on with it. In about five days I began to improve, and when I had finished taking the bottle I was well. I only took a small dose as the medicine was so strong."

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